



HELPING HANDS
CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

A group of Household and Outside Maintenance for Elderly (H.O.M.E.) volunteers from Farmers Insurance helped 80-year-old resident Eleanor combat weeds, trim tree branches and wash windows at her home. Eleanor began using H.O.M.E.'s services after her husband died 10 years ago.

"The volunteers did a great job," Eleanor said. "I couldn't have done it without them."

H.O.M.E. makes it possible for residents, ages 55 and older, to live independently by assisting with everyday household chores such as painting and yard work.

For more information on this City-sponsored program, call H.O.M.E. Program Director Kitty Engle at 952-888-5530.

MEET A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER
GET TO KNOW STEVE JORSCHUMB

No one enjoys having to rush out the door at a moment's notice or leave their loved ones unexpectedly, but 14-year Bloomington Fire Department (BFD) veteran and City Senior Engineering Technician Steve Jorschumb is used to doing just that.

Q What is the most challenging aspect of your job? *Balancing my time can be tough.*

Q How does your family feel about you being a firefighter? *I think it helps that my wife grew up with her dad being on a volunteer fire department. She was used to him running off when a call came in, so she knew what she was getting into when I joined the BFD.*

Q Do you have a scariest moment? *I witnessed two firefighters nearly fall through the floor of a burning building while I was operating the ladder truck. Thankfully, they ended up being okay.*

Q What do you do when you're not at work or volunteering? *My kids keep me pretty busy with recitals and sports. I also volunteer at Sunday school.*



Visit the City's website for more information on making a difference by becoming a Bloomington volunteer firefighter.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: FIRE VOLUNTEERS.



'TIS THE SEASON
AVOID BEING A VICTIM

Before being caught up in the chaos of the holiday season, take a minute or two to review the following safety tips from the Bloomington Police Department.

- If you plan on traveling, set an automatic timer for your lights and ask a neighbor to watch your home and collect newspapers and mail.
- If you are going out, turn on a light or radio so it appears that someone is home.
- Lock all doors and windows while you are out, even if it is for a few minutes. Do not place packages or gifts where they are visible from outside.
- When at home, turn on an outside light to deter burglars. Report any suspicious activity by calling 9-1-1.
- When you go shopping, park in well-lit spaces and lock your doors. Hide bags and purses in your trunk before arriving at your next destination.

Get to know your neighbors by joining our Neighborhood Watch Program. For more information, call Officer Heidi Miller at 952-563-4975 or e-mail hmillier@ci.bloomington.mn.us.

CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Located in Bloomington Civic Plaza at the corner of West 98th Street and Old Shakopee Road, the Center for the Arts is a first-class facility housing seven arts organizations. For facility information, call 952-563-8889. For exhibit information and events, visit www.bloomingtonartcenter.com and click on Exhibitions, or call 952-563-8575.

GALLERY HOURS

Hours: M - F 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Sa 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Su 1 - 10 p.m.

For all theater tickets, call the Box Office at 952-563-8575.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS:
CENTER FOR THE ARTS.

GIFTS IN THE GALLERY

This fantastic annual holiday sale, featuring works by local artists, runs December 7 - 21. A festive reception is scheduled for Wednesday, December 7, 6 - 8 p.m.



INEZ GREENBERG GALLERY

LACE AND GUNPOWDER: THE MALE/FEMALE ART EXHIBITION



The Fire Tamer by Tina Blondell.

This exhibit featuring works by four male and female pairs of artists working in different artistic genres, runs January 13 - February 17.

Artists' reception is Thursday, February 9, 7 p.m.

SCHNEIDER THEATER

THE CROSBY - CLOONEY STORY: "FANCY MEETING YOU HERE"

Frequent singing partners Arne Fogel and Maud Hixson will bring back the spirit of Crosby and Clooney, Saturday, December 10, 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$22 adults; \$19 seniors/students.

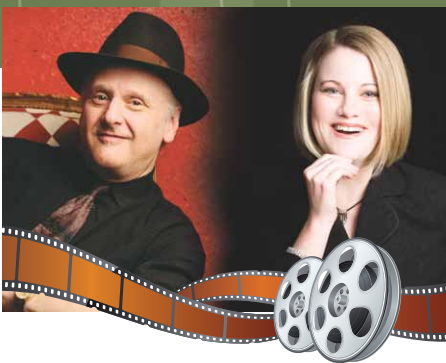
SOUNDS OF THE SEASON

The Medalist Band presents *Sounds of the Season*, a combination of traditional and contemporary favorites, Sunday, December 11, 4 p.m. Tickets are \$22 adults; \$10 seniors/students.

SONGS OF THE SEASON

The NOTE-able Singers present *Songs of the Season*, featuring such holiday hits as *Winter Wonderland* and *Santa Baby*, Thursday, December 15, 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12 adults, \$10 seniors/students.

HOLLY, HARP & FIDDLE



The Bloomington Chorale transports you to the British Isles with Celtic and Old English songs, Saturday, December 17, 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, December 18, 4 p.m. Tickets are \$14 adults; \$10 seniors/students.



FIRE PREVENTION
ENSURE YOUR HOME IS SAFE

Bloomington Fire Prevention recommends the following tips to prevent home fires:

- Choose holiday decorations that are flame resistant.
- Keep lit candles away from things that can burn.
- Replace lights with worn cords or loose bulb connections. Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Test all smoke alarms. Replace batteries if necessary.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles. Store matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stove top.

For information, contact Fire Marshal Gene Dugal at 952-563-8967 or gdugal@ci.bloomington.mn.us.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: FIRE PREVENTION.